

## Marines Foster Strong Ties with Kokamu Village: A Powerful Show of Unity and Security in Papua

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Yahukimo- In a remarkable display of community engagement, the Indonesian Armed Forces' Marines Task Forces, led by Major Tirta, carried out a heartfelt Social Communication (Komsos) initiative in Kokamu Village, located in Dekai District, Papua Pegunungan Province, on Saturday, November 23, 2024. As part of their ongoing mobile security mission along the Indonesia-Papua New Guinea border, the Marines' interaction with the local residents is a significant step toward

building lasting trust and collaboration between the military and the community.

In his message to the troops, Lieutenant Colonel Rismanto Manurung, the commander of the Marines Task Forces, emphasized the importance of connecting with the local population. "As we focus on security, it is equally vital that we ensure the well-being of the communities we serve," he said. During their patrol, the Marines seized the opportunity to stop by Kokamu Village, listen to residents' concerns, and distribute food packages bringing much-needed relief to the people.

The interaction was met with overwhelming positivity. Local resident Mama Maria Tabuni shared her gratitude, exclaiming, "Thank you, Commander Marines. God bless." This heartfelt response is a testament to the bond being forged between the military and the people of Kokamu, where the presence of the Marines is viewed not just as a source of security but also as a symbol of hope and support.

The Marines' effort to engage socially with the community is part of the broader mission to accelerate the development of the Papua region. Brigadier General Lucky Avianto, the HABEMA Commanding General, commended the Marines for their dedication to inclusive social communication, stating, "This initiative reflects TNI's commitment to fostering unity, security, and development in Papua."

The success of this Komsos highlights the profound impact that military-community interactions can have in shaping the future of the region. With the support of the local people, the Marines Task Forces continue to play a crucial role in both safeguarding the area and promoting the Indonesian government's development goals for Papua.

This heartwarming exchange serves as a reminder that security and development go hand-in-hand, and when the military and local communities unite, they create a powerful force for progress and peace.

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